

ecoNews — Wire —

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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For immediate release

1. **Beaches Posted at George Wyth and Beeds Lake; Re-Sampling to be Done at Pine Lakes, Lake Geode and Lacey-Keosauqua; Advisory Removed at Rock Creek Lake**
2. **Animal producers penalized when manure plans not submitted**
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BEACHES POSTED AT GEORGE WYTH AND BEEDS LAKE; RE-SAMPLING TO BE DONE AT PINE LAKES, LAKE GEODE AND LACEY-KEOSAUQUA; ADVISORY REMOVED AT ROCK CREEK LAKE

DES MOINES — Swimming advisories have been posted at the beaches at George Wyth State Park in Black Hawk County and Beeds Lake in Franklin County.

A swimming advisory at Rock Creek Lake in Jasper County has been removed.

High samples were recorded at Pine Lakes in Hardin County, Lake Geode in Henry County and Lacey Keosauqua in Van Buren County. Those beaches have been re-sampled.

The beach at George Wyth Lake had an E. coli bacteria reading of 1,100 which exceeds the standard for a one-time sample result of 235. George Wyth is on the list of eight lakes in Iowa that have had a history of high bacteria levels in the past and gets posted with an advisory immediately when a high sample is taken.

Although the level at Beeds Lake was 90 for E. coli, down from previous weeks, it still exceeds the geometric mean of 126 for at least five results taken over a 30-day period so an advisory will remain in effect there.

Pine Lakes had an E. coli count of 440, Lake Geode was at 460 and Lacey-Keosauqua had a count of 260. All have been re-sampled because none have had a history of bacteria

problems in previous years of monitoring. Advisories will be posted if the results are still high after being re-tested.

Bacteria levels at beaches typically rise as a result of runoff from rainfall and can return to normal in less than two days with sunny conditions. Samples are collected from the beaches on Monday and Tuesday. There was widespread rain over much of Iowa in the last week likely elevating bacteria levels at some locations.

Bacteria levels at Iowa's 31 other state park beaches are within acceptable levels.

The DNR is also advising normal precautions for contact with any surface water in Iowa:

- Avoid swallowing the water
- Avoid the water if you have open cuts or wounds that could become infected by contact with bacteria
- Swimming is not recommended for persons who are very young or very old and may have problems avoiding ingestion of water, and people who have weakened immune systems due to other medical conditions.

Weekly beach monitoring results are posted on the DNR's website every Friday afternoon at <http://www.iowadnr.com/news/beach.html>

For more information, contact Kevin Baskins at (515) 281-8395 or Janice Boekhoff, 319-335-1574.

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ANIMAL PRODUCERS PENALIZED WHEN MANURE PLAN IS NOT SUBMITTED

DES MOINES — The DNR recently issued seven penalties to animal producers who have not submitted annual updates to their manure management plans (MMPs).

“We would much rather work with producers than go to an enforcement action,” said Barb Lynch, chief of the DNR field services and compliance bureau. “However, if a producer fails to submit an MMP after we’ve repeatedly contacted them when other producers are complying, then we need to enforce the law.”

The following producers have received administrative orders for failure to submit an annual updated MMP and for failure to pay an annual compliance fee:

- Luke and Charlie Kollasch, Kollasch Farm, Whittemore, \$750 penalty,
- Denny Holtrip, Swine 59, Luverne, Minnesota, \$750 penalty,
- Brett Bachman, Bachman Pork, Inc., Sac City, \$750,
- Smokey Farms Finishing, Joe Halbur, Carroll County, \$750,
- Mahogany Partnership, Joe Halbur, Carroll County,

- Black Walnut and English Walnut, Joe Halbur, Carroll County, and
- Stone-Path IV LLC, Joe Halbur, Carroll County.

Producers who received a penalty had received two letters notifying them of the legal requirements and two letters notifying them that they were in violation of the law and needed to comply. The fourth letter was sent by certified mail.

“When we haven’t heard anything from the producer, DNR specialists have verified that the operations are still in business, and only then have we issued orders,” Lynch said.

Legislation passed in 2002 requires animal producers with more than 500 animal units to file an annual update of their MMP with the DNR and with counties where manure is produced and land-applied.

Producers are also required to pay an annual compliance fee of 15 cents per animal unit capacity. The annual compliance fees received since March 1, 2003, range from about \$15 to more than \$3,800 per operation, with most producers paying between \$120 and \$240.

For more information, contact Barb Lynch, supervisor, at 712-262-4177.

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DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

DES MOINES — The DNR has taken the following enforcement actions. Responsible parties have 30 days to appeal the charges or 60 days to pay the penalty.

- Muscatine Used Parts, Inc, of Muscatine, was ordered to submit a Notice of Intent to obtain a storm water discharge permit; submit an adequate Pollution Prevention Plan; reduce the number of waste tires stored on site to less than 3,500 and immediately cease the collection and de-manufacturing of discarded appliances; remove and properly dispose of all discarded appliances on-site; submit records verifying proper disposal; and pay a \$10,000 penalty. The order has been appealed.
- McMahon’s Bar and Ballroom, of Andover, was ordered to sample the public water supply for bacteria at least once per quarter; sample the public water supply for nitrate and nitrite; pay a \$25 annual operation fee and a \$100 late fee; perform operating, monitoring and record-keeping requirements; provide public notice of monitoring deficiencies; and pay a \$500 penalty.
- Brad Taylor, of Pottawattamie County, was ordered to stop open burning of combustible materials; cease the illegal disposal of solid waste; remove all illegally disposed of solid waste and dispose of it properly; remove all landscape wastes; submit documentation of proper disposal; and pay a penalty of \$3,500. The order has been appealed.
- New Horizons Pork, L.L.P., of Fayette County, was ordered to comply with minimum manure control requirements and to pay a \$500 penalty.

- The City of Ankeny was ordered to comply with water monitoring requirements and pay a \$1,000 penalty. The order has been appealed.
- The City of Ankeny was ordered to properly operate and maintain its wastewater treatment facilities, comply with effluent limitations and pay a \$10,000 penalty. The order has been appealed.
- Ron Fisher Furniture, of Marshalltown, was ordered to conduct required stack testing; in the future, obtain required permits before constructing, reconstructing, altering or modifying equipment or control equipment; apply for construction permit for a non-exempt unpermitted equipment or modified equipment; maintain records and comply with emissions limits; comply with opacity limits; and pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order has been appealed.

For more information, contact Kevin Baskins at (515) 281-8395.